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INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Control: 159

Rec'd: November 1, 1962
9:08 A. M.

M
Action
SS
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FROM: Cairo

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 698, November 1, 3 P. M.

PRIORITY.

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Following is unofficial English translation text furnished by UAR Government of letter from President Nasser to President Kennedy re Cuba delivered to me this morning:

"Cairo, 31 October.

Dear President,

It is with much concern that I received your letter dated 22 October attached to your official statement to the American nation on the situation in Cuba. Indeed I do appreciate your effort to clarify the trend of American policy before those concerned about world development and preoccupied with peace issues.

I believe that now there is no longer scope for discussing the different views on the nature of the bases which existed in Cuba and roused your suspicion.

At the same time there is no longer scope now to discuss the American measures based thereon.

There is no longer scope for such discussion which has bearing no more, for, fortunately enough, the concern of the peoples

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-2- 698, November 1, 3 P. M. from Cairo.

of the world for peace, their determined resolution to safeguard it, their efforts within and outside the United Nations as well as the wisdom, sound assessment and sense of responsibility which characterizes the attitude of all parties to the dispute - all those factors make it better and more profitable to look forward to the future than to stick to the past.

Here I have to record a few observations:

First - We appreciate your response to Acting UN Secretary General Mister U Thant's call, as well as the cooperation extended to him by the U.S. Delegation to the UN is the best guarantee to a sound solution to problems.

Second - We deeply appreciate the fact that the American measures - irrespective of our opinion thereon - were carried out in a way devoid of aggressive incitement.

Third - We appreciate your promise not to invade Cuba militarily and we feel that this pledge was a genuine contribution to easing tension.

Here, we would confidently declare our belief that the U.S. with her might and prestige, can more than any other, consolidate peace. In this respect she bears a historic responsibility before mankind as a whole since peace based on justice is a human demand that precedes all others; for, not only does it preserve but it also honours life.

Please accept, dear President, my best wishes,

Signed, Gamal Abdel Nasser, President of the United Arab Republic."

Arabic original and English translation being pouched.

BADEAU

mbk

Note: Relayed to the White House, 11/1/62.

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